

B. 1.6, V. 9, #37

Leicester, Massachusetts,

Mon. June 30, 1862.

Dear friend Webb;

On the inside of this sheet you will find my Account, financial, to date, which I believe is right, but is subject to your examination, of course. - My last to you was of May 27., and was I think little else than a hurried acknowledgment of yrs. rec<sup>d</sup>. in N.Yk. May 7<sup>th</sup>, and containing the Bk. of Ireland Draft for £19.13.1. That <sup>(when I wrote last)</sup> was the week of the New England Convention, - a very busy week for me, and a very stirring meeting of the Conv<sup>n</sup>. More difference of opinion among the prominent Abolitionists than usual, and on the same grounds to some extent upon <sup>which</sup> you Brit. Abolitionists differ from us, and among each other. There was also some unpleasant feeling caused, by Pillsbury's pretty openly charging, & Powell's (& others') insinuating (which is worse than open attack), that the Antislavery Societies & their Committees had lowered their moral standard, and receded from their high moral position. Don't misunderstand me that we wince, for nothing is more clearly capable of sound defence and maintenance than the ground which, as ever, the A.S. Societies occupy. We hold the Government, the parties, the Churches, - as ever - to their highest duty. But we hope not to part with our common sense, (I had almost said our sanity), as I think we should, did we say with P. Pillsbury (& some others) "that the present administration is the worst one we have ever had; 2. That Jeff. Davis would be preferable as a President to Abraham Lincoln; 3. That Emancipation would be a curse, if decreed as a political necessity, or as a war-measure, and should only be accepted or desired on the ground of <sup>repentance and</sup> absolute right. These and kindred positions seem to us to be really and truly characterized by fanaticism; and tho' Pillsbury meant and threw all with great power of language & illustration, and with a sort of dogged determination to proscribe all his associates, who do not take the same position, yet I think there are ~~very~~ very few indeed who agree with him here. One of his most intimate personal friends, a man of intelligence, told me on Sat<sup>y</sup>. (in Worcester) that he entirely scouted the idea that Emancipation would be worthless if brought about as a Political ~~absolute~~ Necessity. - I agree that the Brit. W.I. Emancipation was not a Curse, altho' attended with many objectionable features, wholly indefensible on the score of principle, - as the Compensation-feature to the Masters, the gradualism, & apprenticeship.



Dr. Samuel May Jr. in account

1861,			\$	cts
Dec. 18.	Rec <sup>d</sup> . of R. D. W. Bk. of Ireland Draft, £26.16.0 -		131.	02
1862.				
Jan. 25.	Rec <sup>d</sup> . of R. D. W. Bk. of Ireland Draft, 33.10.6 -		166.	14
	(sold at 11½ prem.)			
Feb. 10.	Rec <sup>d</sup> . of W. J. Bowditch, Treas <sup>r</sup> . Am <sup>n</sup> . M <sup>t</sup> . Socy, } to offset R. D. W.'s account of Expenditures incurred by him for said Socy, (£8.12.2)		42.	63
Apr. 23.	Postage Stamps, from R. D. W. . . . .		.	18
May 7.	Rec <sup>d</sup> . of R. D. W. Bk. Ireland Draft, £19.13.1 (sold at 14% prem.)		99.	58
			\$	439.55

Dear Mr. Webb - My last previous acct. was transmitted, as I find by my memorandum, Nov. 26. 1861. This has been delayed, - for a considerable time by the uncertainty attending Mr. Biggs's money, & for a few weeks back by my own engagements. - The balance (small) in your favour is partly caused by the unusual high premiums recently obtained on English bills; as, in paying money here (except in the case of McKim's £10.) I reckoned the established rate of \$4.80 to the p<sup>d</sup>. Mg., - giving you the benefit, as is but fair, of the extra premium. - You asked me to pay Miss Martineau's money direct to Mr. Bowditch, as you thought she would prefer it to go so, according to Mr. Chapman's notice. But when I found Mr. C. was herself paying her own money to the Ladies' Committee, I took the liberty of paying in Miss M.'s in the same way, believing that she would approve that course, in the circumstances. For the rest I believe the acct. will sufficiently explain itself. To yourself, & your accountant, Alfred, my best regards. S. M. Jr.

(The sum should be transferred)



\$ ct  
31.02

66.14

42.63

.18

99.58

39.55

with Richard D. Webb. Cr  
1861

Dec. 15. P<sup>d</sup>. R. F. Wallcut, for Subscriptions to Liberator } 33.36  
as per R. D. W.'s acc<sup>t</sup>. rec<sup>d</sup>. Dec. 18. 1861

" 30. P<sup>d</sup>. S. H. Gay, for do. do. to Standard, as per do. 63.16

<sup>1862.</sup>  
Jan 30. P<sup>d</sup>. to 18<sup>th</sup> A. S. Subscription Anniversary, viz.

Subscription of J. Haughton & family -- 7.0.0.

Miss Martineau 1.1.0 1.1.0

Mrs. Martineau 2.2.0

Mrs. Turner 1.1.0

Dublin Ladies Socy (for Standard) 5.0.0

R. D. Webb 5.0.0

James H. Webb 1.0.0

Mrs. Palmer 10.0.0

Mrs. Allen 6.0.0

38.4.0 189.30

Feb. 11. P<sup>d</sup>. J. M. McKim, as per order, £10. - 49.55

May 8. Mrs. Ashurst Biggs' subs<sup>n</sup> to Stand<sup>d</sup>. 3.00

Life of John Brown, sent to J. E. Sulist, } 1.15  
as per order (including 15¢ postage)

May 21. P<sup>d</sup>. R. F. Wallcut, for Liberator as per R. D. W.'s } 32.58  
account, rec<sup>d</sup>. May 7.

May 21. P<sup>d</sup>. S. H. Gay, for Standard, as per do. do. do. } 20.88

June 2. P<sup>d</sup>. W. J. Boroditch, Treas<sup>r</sup>. Am<sup>n</sup>. A. S. Socy. } 40.80  
sundry donations, as per R. D. W.'s acc<sup>t</sup>; rec<sup>d</sup>. May 7. 62.

Postages .06

\$ 433.84

Balance to next acc<sup>t</sup>. - Due R. D. W. 5.71

439.55

E. C. Saml May Jr.  
Leicester, June 30. 1862.

(The sum  
should  
be  
transferred)



Notwithstanding all these objectionable political features,  
tacked on to that great Measure of Justice & Right by the  
Government under the influence of privileged and inter-  
ested classes, and as a Concession to the Selfish Spirit,  
(better to be made than to hold the 800,000 longer in Slavery,)  
the Brit. W.I. Emanc<sup>n</sup>. was a most glorious measure, whose  
good fruits have been steadily increasing & ripening, till now  
the very vilest & most unscrupulous of its enemies cease  
from their slanders; it was, moreover, really & strictly the  
result of the Moral & Religious Agitation carried on thro' the  
Kingdom, and was in effect a great Measure of Justice, tho'  
hampered & overlaid by Govt. with many unjust conditions.  
So will it be with Emancipation here, whenever it comes.  
On whatever ground of Expediency, National Safety, or  
Political or Financial Necessity, it may be put and carried,  
it will really be the result of the Great Antislavery  
Education which, under the influence & guidance of the  
Antislavery Societies, this Nation has received during the  
Thirty Years past. We need not expect, - no sensible man  
will, or can, expect, - that a Political Government will ever  
decree a great Measure like this on the simple basis of  
Right and Justice; - "ever", I said, - but I should rather  
have said, at present; or in our day. I hope, and I believe,  
Nations will yet rise to that plane of honesty and  
self-respect.

[Indeed, we have had an approach to that  
higher grade, when one of the Barbary States, "for the honor  
of God, & to distinguish man from the brute creation", decreed the  
abolition of Slavery. There was, however, I suspect, some  
little hypocrisy on the part of the Bey (of Tunis I believe it was),  
and a good deal of the credit of the thing, I suppose, belonged to  
the English representative then residing in that country.] We  
must rest content, humanly speaking, when your Govt. or ours will  
do a great & just act, ~~and~~ let them put it on what grounds  
they will. Our Nation owes the Slaves of this country, 1. Their freedom  
(and if they won't give it as their right, let them yield it as a necessity)  
2. Education, and Opportunity to rise, as men. And only generations  
of patient and forbearing instruction & guidance can atone for their  
long wrongs. But this must suffice, leaving much unsaid. <sup>Yrs. ever</sup>  
Saml. May Jr